GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4596
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
NATIONAL SAMPLE SURVEY
NITISH SENGUPTA

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent survey conducted by the National Sample Survey indicated asubstantial reduction of people below poverty line in recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the survey contradicts another survey brought out in 1997 by the Planning Commission; and

(d) if so, the factual position in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINISTRIES OF PLANNING, STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) and (b): The estimate of poverty calculated from the 50th Round large sample survey onconsumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) was 35.97%for the year 1993-94. The data from the latest large survey of the 55th Round on a 30-day recall basis indicate a poverty ratio of 26.1% for 1999-2000.

(c) and (d): The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below thepoverty line at national and state level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The two latest such surveys were conducted in 1993-94 and 1999-2000. As such, the estimates of number of persons living below the poverty line in the year 1997 are not available.